

Proclamation

IN THE MATTER OF DECLARING AN EMERGENCY RELATED TO THE NOVEL CORONA VIRUS (COVID-19)

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the Secretary of the United States Department of Public Health and Human Services, Alex Azar, declared a public emergency effective January 27, 2020 for the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020 Governor Jay Inslee signed a Proclamation declaring that a State of Emergency exists in all counties in the State of Washington due to the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the State, and directed that the plans and procedures of the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan be implemented; and,

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Board of Yakima County Commissioners signed a declaration of Emergency relating to the Corona Virus (COVID-19) in Yakima County; and

WHEREAS, one or more COVID-19 events have now occurred in Yakima County, and disruption of important services, damage to life, or damage to property can be expected from the above conditions; and,

WHEREAS, the Yakima Valley Office of Emergency Management and the Yakima County Health District has declared a local health emergency and recommend that the Board of County Commissioners declared a state of emergency to manage the impacts of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, while it is believed that currently, the risk of the spread of COVID-19 in the City of Tieton remains low, the documented presence and impact of the virus within Yakima County and it's potential to spread rapidly in the region if steps are not taken to contain or slow the spread constitutes an emergency; and,

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, and can easily spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, while there have been no COVID-19 cases confirmed for individuals residing or working in the City of Tieton, the spread of COVID-19 continues with more people being affected; and

WHEREAS, measures must be taken to protect the public health, safety, and welfare within the City; and

WHEREAS, City resources related to contact tracing, disease investigation and prevention, continuity of operations, public information, and funding are expected to be severely affected and/or exhausted; and

WHEREAS, the foregoing affects the City of Tieton; and;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AS FOLLOWS:

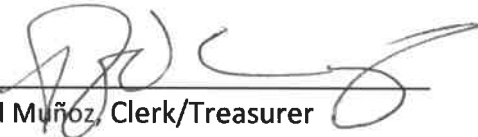
1. Emergency Declaration. A state of emergency specifically covered under Chapter 38.52 RCW, exists within the City of Tieton, Washington, as a result of the spread of COVID-19 in Yakima County. The outbreak of COVID-19 and the effects of it's extreme risk of person-to-person transmission throughout Washington State and Yakima County significantly impacts the life and health of those living and working at City of Tieton, as well as continuity of operations and government at the City, and is a public emergency that affects life, health, property or the public peace.
2. Emergency Powers. All emergency powers and authority set forth in RCW 38.52.070 are hereby invoked, including without limitation the right to enter into contract, employ temporary workers and incur obligations without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (except mandatory constitutional requirements).

3. State and Federal Assistance. The Mayor and his/her designee are authorized to request all available state and federal assistance necessary to respond to this emergency.
4. Response Declaration. It is the policy of City of Tieton that no guarantee is implied by actions authorized above, and that there is no perfect emergency response system. In any given set of circumstances, the City of Tieton and its assets and systems may be overwhelmed, and the City can only endeavor to make every reasonable effort to respond based on the situation, and information and resources available at this time.
5. Term of Declaration. The emergency declared herein shall be in place immediately upon the date of adoption and continue and shall remain in place until terminated, extended or amended by further Proclamation of the Mayor and/or action of the City Council.
6. Notice. A copy of this declaration, the extent practicable, shall be posted at the City's regular locations for official notices and shall be made available to members of the local news media and the general public and appropriate federal, state, regional and local agencies.

DONE this 8th day of April 2020.

By: 
Dewane Ashbrooks, Mayor

Attest:


Fred Muñoz, Clerk/Treasurer



Approved as to form:

James C. Carmody, City Attorney